

**From:** Nathan Krick  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 11/17/01 1:20am  
**Subject:** good decision

Since most of the e-mails directed to this address are probably sent by people who think that the ruling in this case was a poor decision, I felt the need to send an e-mail saying that I think it was a good decision. I believe this for many reasons, including the following.

First, OS. Microsoft is not a monopoly, Linux is becoming a larger "threat" as it gains more and more support, including support from industry giants such as Intel, AMD, and HP. If nothing else, Linux is certainly a viable option now and I don't think it can be argued that Microsoft is a monopoly in the OS market.

Second, Office Suites. Microsoft is not a monopoly in the Office Suite market either. Other options exist, such as Corell and Star Office. Adobe also makes good software for page layout and publishing, and Macromedia dominates the internet and web design market.

Third, Internet Browsers. In this area, other options such as Netscape and Opera exist.

Forth, Intellectual Ownership. Microsoft retains intellectual ownership of the source code for all of their software, to force Microsoft to open their source code for their competitors to see is illegal according to our constitution. They own the software and have the right to open the code (or not open it) to whomever they want. It's called capitalism, the notion on which our country was founded.

Fifth, Innovation. Microsoft's competitors are upset because Microsoft includes to many applications and tools with their software and say that either Microsoft should not be allowed to do so, or should include their tools too. That is all innovation, Microsoft makes a good product, and then they bundle it with their other software, how is that illegal? They own the rights to the software and can distribute it however they want to. That is like telling a car maker that they have to allow the buyer to decide what company they want all the options in their car from. (I want my power windows from company X, and my automatic locks from company Y. No, the manufacturer makes their own equipment and bundles it with the car.) Again, it's capitalism.

We are not talking about Standard Oil or Mitsubishi here. Microsoft does not own everything (I have yet to see an entire computer system designed, built, and sold by Microsoft, hardware and software - that could potentially be a monopoly - take a look at Apple). Microsoft designs good software and many people use it because they like it. I don't use software just because it came bundled with my system. I use what I like to use best. Microsoft has plenty of competition and with the internet, the competitors software is plenty easy to get.

Nathan Krick